

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 9, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 41, and 71-72 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal products product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ and C₂₂ omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and

wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the marine animal product is selected from the group consisting of a fish ~~oil~~, oil and a fish oil derived from a fish meal product, ~~and a fish meal product~~ or a mixture thereof.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the marine animal product comprises a fish oil from a North Atlantic cold water fish.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the fish oil comprises salmon oil.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition further comprises omega-6 fatty acids or esters thereof.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the omega-6 fatty acids/esters to omega-3 fatty acids/esters ratio in the feed composition as a final mixture is from about 3:1 to about 20:1.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 1% by weight of salmon oil.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 1% by weight of the fish oil or the fish oil derived from the fish meal product.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition is administered daily to the female animal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition is administered to the female swine beginning about 30 days before a first mating of the female swine during an estrus and continuing through a second mating of the female swine during the same estrus.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition is administered to the female swine beginning about 1 to about 4 days prior to parturition and continuing through the next breeding.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition is administered during lactation.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture further comprises an antioxidant.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein the omega fatty acids in the ~~fish oil~~ marine animal product are stabilized by prilling.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the number of live births to a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal products product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ and C₂₂
omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and
wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to
about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the total number of births to a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal ~~products~~ product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ and C₂₂
omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and
wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to
about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the uniformity of birth weight of offspring of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female animal a feed composition comprising a marine animal ~~products~~ product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ and C₂₂
omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and
wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to
about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the farrowing rate of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal ~~products~~ product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ and C₂₂

omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and

wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a breeding population of swine comprising the step of:

administering to a female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal ~~products~~ product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ and C₂₂

omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and

wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

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69. (Canceled)

70. (Canceled)

71. (Currently amended) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal ~~products~~ product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₀ omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and

wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

72. (Currently amended) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal ~~products~~ product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises ~~comprising~~ C₂₂ omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and

wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

Please add claims 73-102 as follows:

73. (New) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal product wherein the marine animal product is a fish meal product

and wherein the fish meal product comprises C₂₀ and C₂₂ omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof.

74. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the fish meal product is from a North Atlantic cold water fish.

75. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition further comprises omega-6 fatty acids or esters thereof.

76. (New) The method of claim 75 wherein the omega-6 fatty acids/esters to omega-3 fatty acids/esters ratio in the feed composition as a final mixture is from about 3:1 to about 20:1.

77. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 1% to about 10% by weight of the fish meal product.

78. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition is administered daily to the female animal.

79. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition is administered to the female swine beginning about 30 days before a first mating of the female swine during an estrus and continuing through a second mating of the female swine during the same estrus.

80. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition is administered to the female swine beginning about 1 to about 4 days prior to parturition and continuing through the next breeding.

81. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition is administered during lactation.

82. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture further comprises an antioxidant.

83. (New) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising a marine animal product;

wherein the marine animal product comprises omega-6 fatty acids or esters thereof and C₂₀ and C₂₂ omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof; and

wherein the omega-6 fatty acids/esters to omega-3 fatty acids/esters ratio in the feed composition as a final mixture is from about 3:1 to about 20:1.

84. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the marine animal product is an oil from a North Atlantic cold water fish.

85. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the marine animal product comprises salmon oil.

86. (New) The method of claim 85 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 1% by weight of salmon oil.

87. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 1% by weight of the marine animal product.

88. (New) The method of claim 85 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of salmon oil.

89. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the marine animal product.

90. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition is administered daily to the female animal.

91. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition is administered to the female swine beginning about 30 days before a first mating of the female swine during an estrus and continuing through a second mating of the female swine during the same estrus.

92. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition is administered to the female swine beginning about 1 to about 4 days prior to parturition and continuing through the next breeding.

93. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition is administered during lactation.

94. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture further comprises an antioxidant.

95. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the omega fatty acids in the marine animal product are stabilized by prilling.

96. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the marine animal product is menhaden oil.

97. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 1% by weight of menhaden oil.

98. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the marine animal product is menhaden oil.

99. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 1% by weight of menhaden oil.

100. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein the feed composition as a final mixture comprises about 0.025% to about 2% by weight of the menhaden oil.

101. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition further comprises a plant oil.

102. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the feed composition is fed to the female swine daily for the lifetime of the female swine.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and

shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (834460/68474).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark M. Newman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark M. Newman
Registration No. 31,472
(202) 289-1313